

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00861 111330Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 W
-----070252 111405Z /45
P 111220Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4544
INFO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

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USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, BU
SUBJECT: MEETING OF AMBASSADOR WITH GOB MINISTER OF METALLURGY
AND MINERAL RESOURCES SET FOR MAY 16

REF: SOFIA 0853

1. FURTHER TO REFERENCE; EMBASSY REQUEST FOR MEETING OF
AMBASSADOR WITH GOB MINISTER OF METALLURGY AND MINERAL
RESOURCES GRANTED FOR 14"J LOCAL ON MAY 16, THUS WE WILL
REQUIRE ANY USDOC INPUT FOR REVIEW ON MAY 15.

2. WISH TO REPORT SOMEWHAT INTERESTING BY-PLAY TMOUR
REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH MINISTER STAMENOV: DURING EARLIER
MEETING WITH EMBOFF, MINISTER STATED HE INTERESTED IN
MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS COOPERATION WITH EMBASSY
AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH A MEETING AT THE AMBASSADOR'S
CONVENIENCE. WE DECIDED TO MAKE LITMUS TEST OF HIS ATTITU-
TUDE BY TELEPHONING OUR REQUEST FOR THE MEETING DIRECTLY
TO THE PROTOCOL SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF METALLURGY AND
MINERAL RESOURCES, AS SUGGESTED BY THE MINISTER, RATHER
THAN ATTEMPT TO DEAL THROUGH PROVOL SECTION OF MFA.
ADDITIONALLY, WE SPECIFIED 1500 ON MAY 16 (CHANGED TO 1430 AT
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OUR REQUEST TODAY), BUT NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR AVAILABLE AT
OTHER TIMES DURING WEEK IF THIS INCONVENIENT TO MINISTER.
OUR CALL WAS PLACED DURING AFTERNOON OF MAY 9 AND EMBASSY
RECEIVED TELEPHONE RESPONSE WITH APPOINTMENT SHORTLY AFTER
OPENING OF BUSINESS ON MAY 10. AS DEPT AWARE, THIS TYPE
RESPONSIVENESS AND PROMPTNESS NOT REGULARLY ENCOUNTERED IN
OUR REQUESTS TO MEET AT MINUTERIAL LEVEL OF GOB. WE PRE-

SUME THAT MINISTER STAMENOV WILL REITERATE HIS STATEMENTS
ON HIS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH CLOSER COOPERATION WITH EMBASSY
AS A MEANS OF ESTABLISHING CONTACTS WITH THE APPROPRIATE
AMERICAN BUSINESS FIRMS.
GARTHOFF

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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